

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 INR-07 PM-03 H-02

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R 241853Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7063

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STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, CA

SUBJECT: GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT

1. EMBASSY WAS GIVEN COPY OF LETTER OF JULY 21 FROM PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU TO MP DAN MCKENZIE OF WINNIPEG SOUTH CENTRE ON SUBJECT MATTER TODAY BY WINNIPEG FREE PRESS CORRESPONDENT VIC MACKIE. LETTER QUOTED BELOW (PLEASE DO NOT DIVULGE ACQUISITION OR CONTENTS):

2. "DEAR MR. MCKENZIE: THIS LETTER IS FURTHER TO THE INTERIM REPLIES FROM MY OFFICE TO YOUR LETTERS OF MAY 30 AND JUNE 16 EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT.

3. "AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA HAS CLEARLY STATED ITS OPPOSITION TO THOSE ASPECTS OF THE GARRISON PROJECT WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT CANADA ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS SINCE OCTOBER 1973, WHEN A NOTE WAS SENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES EXPRESSING CANADA'S SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT. AS I STATED IN REPLY TO A QUESTION CONCERNING THE GARRISON WHICH YOU RAISED RECENTLY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, I ALSO RAISED THIS MATTER DIRECTLY WITH PRESIDENT FORD WHEN I MET HIM LAST DECEMBER. IN THIS REGARD, I WOULD LIKE TO REPEAT THAT OUR MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS

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ARE DOOING EVERYTHING THEY CAN TO ENSURE THAT CANADA'S INTERESTS

WILL BE PROTECTED.

4. YOUR UNDERSTANDING, WHICH YOU NOTED IN YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 16, NAMELY THAT ALTERNATIVES TO THE GARRISON PROJECT AS CURRENTLY ENVISAGED HAVE NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH CANADA, IS CORRECT, NOTWITHSTANDING U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION COMMISSIONER STAMM'S STATEMENT TO THE CONTRARY IN HIS RECENT TESTIMONY BEFORE A CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE.

5. "IT WAS PRECISELY BECAUSE OF SUCH MISLEADING IMPRESSIONS IN CERTAIN U.S. QUARTERS ABOUT THE CANADIAN ATTITUDE THAT WE SUBMITTED OUR MOST RECENT NOTE ON THE SUBJECT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON JUNE 23 WITH THE REQUEST THAT AN OUTLINE OF THE CANADIAN POSITION ON THE GARRISON BE DELIVERED WITHOUT DELAY TO THE APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND RELAVANT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS HAVE THEREFORE BEEN INFORMED OF CANADA'S POSITION ON THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT.

6. "I DO NOT THINK, THEREFORE, THAT THERE IS MUCH MORE THAT WE CAN DO AT THIS TIME TO REINFORCE OUR VERY STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE PROJECT AS CURRENTLY ENVISAGED. NOR CAN THERE BE ANY STRONGER ASSURANCE THAN THE UNQUALIFIED UNDERTAKINGS WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE UNITED STATES THAT IT WILL COMPLY WITH ITS OBLIGATION TO CANADA NOT TO POLLUTE WATER CROSSING THE BOUNDARY TO THE INJURY OF HEALTH OR PROPERTY WITHIN CANADA, AND THAT NO CONSTRUCTION POTENTIALLY AFFECTING WATERS FLOWING INTO CANADA WILL BE UNDERTAKEN UNLESS IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS OBLIGATION WILL BE MET.

7. ZAS YOU ARE AWARE, WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES ON THE SUBJECT OF A POSSIBLE JOINT REFERENCE TO THE IJC ON THE GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT. WE ANTICIPATE AN EARLY MEETING OF OFFICIALS FROM BOTH COUNTRIES TO REVIEW THIS AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE QUESTION IN DEPTH. IN THIS REGARD, I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE THAT AGREEMENT ON A JOINT REFERENCE TO THE IJC WOULD BE PREDICATED ON SUCH A REFERENCE CONTAINING LANGUAGE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH COUNTRIES WHICH, ON THE CANADIAN SIDE, CLEARLY RECOGNIZES THAT SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO THE PROJECT AS NOW CONVEIVED. SINCERELY, SIGNED
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P. TRUDEAU."
JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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